

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 LONDON 15104 01 OF 02 271635Z

43

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 COME-00 DOTE-00 NEA-10 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SCEM-02 SCI-06 CG-00 DODE-00

INT-08 DRC-01 SPC-03 PA-04 PRS-01 DLOS-06 FMC-04

USIA-15 /108 W

----- 102131

R 271622Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6676

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 01 OF 02 LONDON 15104

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG

SUBJ: WORLD TANKER TRADE

REF: (A) STATE 247028; (B) LONDON 14988, DEC. 20

BEGIN SUMMARY: WE BELIEVE THE INFORMATION REQUESTED
REFTEL (A) ON TANKER ARRIVALS IS AVAILABLE TO BRITISH
GOVERNMENT BUT BEFORE APPROACHING RESPONSIBLE BRITISH
OFFICIALS WE WOULD LIKE TO KNOW IF WE MAY MAKE ALL OR
PART OF SURVEY, OR EQUIVALENT U.S. DATA, AVAILABLE TO
HMG IN RETURN FOR BRITISH DATA. IF SO, WE BELIEVE
CHANCES OF SECURING RELIABLE FLOW OF DATA WOULD BE
GREATLY IMPROVED. WORKING THROUGH AN OIL COMPANY SOURCE
IS LIKELY TO YIELD LESS COMPLETE RESULTS AND COULD
JEOPARDIZE POSITION OF COMPANY IF, AS SEEMS HIGHLY
PROBABLE, HMG BECAME AWARE OF OUR REQUEST TO COMPANY.
COMPILING DATA FROM PUBLISHED SOURCES IN RESPONSE
QUESTIONS POSED PARAS 2(A), (B) AND (C) IS POSSIBLE, BUT
WOULD PLACE HEAVY STRAIN ON POST CAPABILITIES.END SUMMARY

1. WORLD SUPPLY OF OIL PRODUCTS IS THE SUBJECT OF
EXTENSIVE RESEARCH IN THE U.K. SOME OBSERVERS CONJECTURE
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 LONDON 15104 01 OF 02 271635Z

THERE MAY NOT BE A SHORTAGE. UNCERTAINTY EXISTS BECAUSE

THE ANSWERS AS TO AMOUNT OF OIL SUPPLY ARE HELD ONLY BY MAJOR OIL COMPANIES AND GOVERNMENT. SPECIFIC FIGURES ON ACTUAL IMPORTS ARE NOT AVAILABLE THROUGH THE PORT AUTHORITIES, THE NATIONAL PORTS COUNCIL OR THE OIL COMPANIES.

2. PORT AUTHORITIES DO HAVE STATISTICS ON TONNAGE MOVEMENTS IN THEIR PORTS SINCE THEY ASSESS CONSERVANCY FEES AND PORT CHARGES ON A TONNAGE BASIS. THIS DATA IS NOT PUBLISHED IN ANY WAY WHICH WOULD LEAD US TO KNOW WHICH OIL COMPANY IMPORTED WHAT TONNAGE. THE COMPOSITE FIGURES ARE AT BEST THREE MONTHS OLD. THE NATIONAL PORTS COUNCIL (NPC) RECORD IS WORSE. NPC HOPES TO PUBLISH 1972 OIL MOVEMENT FIGURES BY PORT AND TRADE ROUTE, THE THREE DAY WEEK NOT WITHSTANDING, SOME TIME EARLY IN 1974.

3. UNDOUBTEDLY THE DATA REQUESTED REFTEL IS COMPILED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY (DTI), EITHER THROUGH ITS OWN EFFORTS OR THROUGH THE OIL INDUSTRY EMERGENCY COMMITTEE (OIEC)--THE OFFICIAL BODY CONSISTING OF ABOUT 40 MEMBERS FROM THE OIL INDUSTRY WHO ARE CHARGED WITH ALLOCATING OIL SUPPLIES TO THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS. IT IS CLEAR FROM PUBLIC PRONOUNCEMENTS THAT NO STATISTICS ON OIL SUPPLY ARE BEING MADE PUBLIC. THE TONE IS ONE OF SEVERITY WHEN IT IS STATED THAT THERE WILL BE A SHORTFALL OF 15 PERCENT IN DECEMBER SUPPLY, AND IT IS LIKELY TO BE WORSE IN JANUARY. IN VIEW OF THE APPARENT ATTEMPT AT CONCEALMENT OF ACTUAL STATISTICS (SEE REFTEL B), WE HAVE NOT APPROACHED HMG FOR DATA REQUESTED REFTEL (A).

4. THE MAJOR OIL COMPANIES ALSO HAVE NOT BEEN OFFICIALLY CONTACTED AT HIGH LEVELS TO OBTAIN DATA REQUESTED. THE MAJORS IN THE U.K. ARE ALL REPRESENTED ON THE OIEC, AND WE BELIEVE OUR INQUIRY WOULD IMMEDIATELY BE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE DTI. SINCE SECRETARY KISSINGER PUBLICLY CALLED FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ENERGY ACTION GROUP WHILE IN LONDON RECENTLY, IT COULD BE CONSIDERED BAD FORM TO BE FOUND TO BE SEEKING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 LONDON 15104 01 OF 02 271635Z

ENERGY DATA OUTSIDE OF GOVERNMENT CHANNELS.

5. HMG IS ANXIOUS TO MAINTAIN CONFIDENTIALITY OF THE EXTENT OF THEIR OIL SUPPLY. NEVERTHELESS, WE BELIEVE THEY MAY BE PERSUADED TO PROVIDE USG WITH ACTUAL DATA ON A NORMAL EXCHANGE BASIS. WE BELIEVE HMG WOULD BE INTERESTED IN SOME OF THE RESULTS OF THE SURVEY IN REFTEL AND MAY WISH TO EXCHANGE THEIR DATA FOR SOME OF

OURS. BEFORE PROCEEDING IN DEPTH ON THIS SURVEY, WE
REQUIRE GUIDANCE AS TO AMOUNT OF DATA WE MAY BE
AUTHORIZED TO EXCHANGE WITH HMG.

6. CONCERNING INFORMATION PUBLICLY AVAILABLE--LLOYDS
OF LONDON WORLDWIDE AGENTS OBTAIN THEIR VESSEL MOVEMENT /
DATA FROM A VARIETY OF SOURCES DEPENDING ON LOCAL

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 LONDON 15104 02 OF 02 271637Z

44

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 COME-00 DOTE-00 NEA-10 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SCEM-02 SCI-06 CG-00 DODE-00

INT-08 SPC-03 DRC-01 PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15 DLOS-06

FMC-04 /108 W

----- 102149

R 271622Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6677

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 02 OF 02 LONDON 15104

CONDITIONS. NORMAL SOURCES ARE THE PORT AUTHORITY,
PILOT ORGANIZATIONS, TUG COMPANIES OR STEAMSHIP AGENTS.
IN THE PERSIAN GULF THE DATA USUALLY COMES FROM THE OIL
TERMINAL OPERATOR. MANY YEARS AGO LLOYDS FOUND THEY
COULD RELY ON THEIR SOURCES OF DATA IF THEY DIDN'T ASK
FOR COMMERCIAL INFO SUCH AS CARGO CARRIED, SHIPPER OR
CONSIGNEE NAMES OR FREIGHT PAID. THUS LLOYDS DO NOT
HAVE THIS DATA AND ARE NOT IN A POSITION TO OBTAIN IT.

7. DURING THE PAST FEW WEEKS, LLOYDS HAS NOTED THREE
CHANGES IN VESSEL MOVEMENT EJTA. (A) MORE TANKERS
DEPARTING FROM PERSIAN GULF ARE REPORTING THEIR
DESTINATION AS "TO SEA" OR "UNKNOWN" RATHER THAN GIVING
A SPECIFIC REPORT. (B) MORE TANKERS ARE PROCEEDING FROM

ONE P.G. PORT TO ANOTHER P.G. PORT (APPARENTLY TO TOP OFF). (C) THE NETHERLANDS HAS ASKED LLOYDS TO DISCONTINUE PUBLISHING PORT MOVEMENT DATA FOR TANKERS IN ROTTERDAM. LLOYDS HAS COMPLIED WITH THIS REQUEST. OTHERWISE VOYAGE MOVEMENT REPORTS APPEAR TO BE NORMAL AND ARE PUBLISHED REGULARLY IN THE VARIOUS LLOYDS PUBLICATIONS.

8. LLOYDS LIST IS A DAILY NEWSPAPER WHICH INCLUDES A LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 LONDON 15104 02 OF 02 271637Z

LARGE SECTION ON SHIPPING MOVEMENTS BY PORT, VESSEL NAME, DATE OF ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE, PORT ARRIVED FROM AND DESTINED TO. NO CARGO DATA IS INCLUDED. LLOYDS SHIPPING INDEX IS A DAILY MAGAZINE WHICH INCLUDES THE MOVEMENT OF THE MAJORITY OF VESSELS IN THE WORLD CALLING AT NON-COMMUNIST PORTS. IT INCLUDES VESSEL NAME, OWNER/MANAGER, FLAG, CLASSIFICATION SOCIETY, YEAR BUILT, TONNAGE, PORT OF DEPARTURE, PORT BOUND AND MISC. VOYAGE DATA. NO CARGO DATA. LLOYDS VOYAGE RECORD IS A WEEKLY MAGAZINE WHICH INCLUDES VESSEL NAME, FLAG AND THE PORTS AT WHICH THE VESSEL HAS CALLED RECENTLY. NO CARGO DATA. LLOYDS LOADING LIST IS A WEEKLY MAGAZINE WHICH LISTS ALL GENERAL CARGO SERVICES FROM EVERY PORT BY SHIP, DATE AND BROKERS. NO TANKERS INCLUDED.

9. THE EMBASSY HAS A CONTRACT WITH LLOYDS OF LONDON INTELLIGENCE DEPARTMENT (VALUED AT \$103,000 IN CY73) TO SUPPLY ALL OF THE ABOVE PUBLICATIONS TO SPECIFIED NAVAL ATTACHES AND CONSULATES AND TO A LARGER NUMBER OF AGENCIES IN WASHINGTON. THE BULK OF IT IS FORWARDED BY AIR MAIL AND ARRIVES IN WASHINGTON 24 HOURS AFTER LONDON. EMBOFFS GET THEIR COPIES OF LLOYDS LIST. WE CALCULATE THAT WITHOUT THE HELP OF THE OIL INDUSTRY OR DTI, THROUGH THE NORMAL SOURCES AVAILABLE TO US, WE COULD PROVIDE A WEEKLY LIST CONTAINING INFO REQUESTED IN PARAS 2A, B, C. WE COULD NOT PROVIDE 2D AND E. THIS REPORT WOULD TAKE ABOUT 20 MANHOURS PER WEEK.

10. IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT WE COULD NOT PROVIDE ANY MORE INFORMATION THAN THE DEPARTMENT ALREADY HAS AVAILABLE IN THE VARIOUS LLOYDS PUBLICATIONS IN WASHINGTON, WE CANNOT JUSTIFY THE TIME REQUIRED FOR THIS REPORT. SINCE OTHER ESSENTIAL REPORTING WOULD BE CURTAILED, WE RECOMMEND AGAINST PREPARATION OF ABOVE REPORT IN LONDON. ACTION REQUESTED: ADVISE AS TO EXTENT OF TANKER MOVEMENT INFORMATION OR OIL SUPPLY INFORMATION WE CAN BE AUTHORIZED TO OFFER TO EXCHANGE WITH HMG FOR SIMILAR DATA.

SOHM

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PETROLEUM, SUPPLIES, TRADE, CARGO SHIPS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 DEC 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973LONDON15104
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: LONDON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t1973125/aaaaadql.tel
Line Count: 223
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: (A) STATE 247028; (B) LONDON 14988,, DEC. 20
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 JUL 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <26-Jul-2001 by willialc>; APPROVED <20 FEB 2002 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: WORLD TANKER TRADE
TAGS: ENRG
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005